

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/538,097

Examiner

KAREN C. TANG

Applicant(s)

PRONK ET AL.

Art Unit

2451

- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Appeal filed on 08/27/2008.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3,4,6-8,10-12 and 16.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 20081106.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

/John Follansbee/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2451

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Dicran Halajian on 11/06/2008.

Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A shared medium communication system comprising:
a primary station having a processor arranged to receive an access request, process the access request and send a grant in response to the access request;
a secondary station having a processor for sending the access request and for receiving the grant; and
a shared medium coupling the primary station with the secondary station,
wherein the secondary station is arranged to merge several access requests into a multi request and send the multi request to the primary station, and wherein the primary station is arranged to receive the multi request, process the multi request and send the grant in response to the access requests merged in the multi request, and
wherein the secondary station is arranged to adapt the merging of the access requests in dependence on histories of access requests previously merged, multi requests previously sent and[[/or]] grants previously received.

Claim 2 (canceled).

Claim 3 (currently amended): The shared medium communication system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the secondary station is arranged to adapt the sending of the multi request in dependence on histories of access requests previously merged, multi requests previously sent and ~~[[/or]]~~ grants previously received.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A secondary station having a processor arranged to: ~~for~~ send an access request to a primary station; ~~and for~~ receive a grant from the primary station in response to the access request, the access request comprising a request for access to a shared medium~~[[.]]~~;

~~wherein the secondary station is arranged to~~ merge several access requests into a multi request and send the multi request to the primary station, and ~~wherein the secondary station is arranged to~~ adapt the merging of the access requests in dependence on histories of access requests previously merged, multi requests previously sent and~~[[/or]]~~ grants previously received.

Claim 5 (canceled).

Claim 6 (currently amended): The secondary station as claimed in claim 4, wherein the secondary station is arranged to adapt the sending of the multi request in dependence on histories of access requests previously merged, multi requests previously sent and~~[[/or]]~~ grants previously received.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A primary station having a processor arranged to:

~~for receiving~~ receive an access request from a secondary station[[,]];

~~for processing~~ process the access request and for sending a grant to the secondary station in response to the access request, the access request comprising a request for access to a shared medium[[,]]; ~~wherein the primary station is arranged to~~

receive a multi request containing several merged access requests, process the multi request and send the grants to the secondary station in response to the access requests in the multi request; [[,]] ~~and~~

wherein the secondary station has a processor [[is]] arranged to adapt the merging of the access requests in dependence on histories of access requests previously merged, multi requests previously sent and/or grants previously received.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A method of operating a shared medium communication system, the method comprising the acts of:

a primary station having a processor and receiving an access request, processing the access request. and sending a grant in response to the access request[[,]];

a secondary station having a processor and sending the access request to and receiving the grant from the primary station, the access request comprising a request for access to a shared medium[[,]];

the secondary station merging several access requests into a multi request and sending the multi request to the primary station, wherein the merging act is adapted in dependence on histories of access requests previously merged, multi requests previously sent and/or grants previously received, and

the primary station receiving the multi request, processing the multi request and sending the grants in response to the access requests merged in the multi request.

Claim 9 (canceled)

Claim 10 (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 8, the sending act is adapted in dependence on histories of access requests previously merged, multi requests previously sent and[[/or]] grants previously received.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A method comprising an act of: ~~to a~~
sending an access request from a secondary station to a primary station; [[and]]
receiving by the secondary station a grant from the primary station in response to the access request, the access request comprising a request for access to a shared medium[[.]]; ~~wherein the method comprises the acts of:~~

merging by the secondary station several access requests into a multi request; and
sending by the secondary station the multi request to the primary station[[.]] and
receiving the multi request by the primary station, processing the multi request and
sending grants in response to the access requests merged in the multi request;

wherein the merging act is adapted in dependence on histories of access requests previously merged, multi requests previously sent and[[/or]] grants previously received.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A method of receiving an access request from a secondary station, processing the access request and sending a grant to the secondary station in response to the access request, the access request comprising a request for access to a shared medium, wherein the method comprises the acts of:

receiving a multi request comprising merged access requests, processing the multi request; and

sending the grants to the secondary station in response to the access requests merged in the multi request, wherein a number of requests merged into the multi request is adapted in

dependence on histories of access requests previously merged, multi requests previously sent and[[/or]] grants previously received.

Claim 13 (canceled)

Claim 14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (canceled).

Claim 16 (currently amended): The shared medium communication system of claim 1, wherein the traffic load is predicted from the histories of access requests previously merged multi requests previously sent and[[/or]] grants previously received.

Claim 17 (canceled)

Claim 18 (canceled)

Claim 19 (canceled)

Claim 20 (canceled)

Reason for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

3. Applicant's argument in page 11 of the appeal filed on 08/27/2008 is persuasive.

4. None of the prior art of records teach or suggest in combination:

a primary station having a processor arranged to receive an access request, process the access request and send a grant in response to the access request;

a secondary station having a processor for sending the access request and for receiving the grant; and

a shared medium coupling the primary station with the secondary station, wherein the secondary station is arranged to merge several access requests into a multi request and send the multi request to the primary station, and wherein the primary station is arranged to receive the multi request, process the multi request and send the grant in response to the access requests merged in the multi request, and

wherein the secondary station is arranged to adapt the merging of the access requests in dependence on histories of access requests previously merged, multi requests previously sent and grants previously received.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KAREN C. TANG whose telephone number is (571)272-3116.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7 - 5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee can be reached on (571)272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/K. C. T./
Examiner, Art Unit 2451
/John Follansbee/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2451